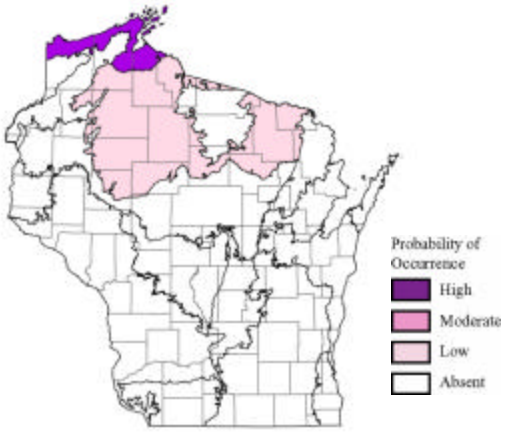
Shortjaw Cisco (*Coregonus zenithicus*)

Species Assessment Scores*

State rarity:	4
State threats:	4
State population trend:	5
Global abundance:	4
Global distribution:	5
Global threats:	4
Global population trend:	5
Mean Risk Score:	4.4
Area of importance:	5

* Please see the Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries (Section 3.1.1) for definitions of criteria and scores.



Ecological Landscape Associations
Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

Landscape -community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
North Central Forest	Lake Superior
Superior Coastal Plain	Lake Superior

Threats and Issues

- Loss of cold deepwater areas in Lake Superior due to effects of climate change is a threat to this species, as it prefers deep waters (generally greater than 200 ft.)
- Habitat degredation in Lake Superior from a variety of causes, including contaminants and sedimentation, is a threat to this species, which is now limited in its US distribution to this single water body.
- Historic overfishing is among the reasons that this species was extirpated from the other Great Lakes. Though there is no current commercial fishery for this species, incidental take in other fisheries may still pose some threat to shortjaw ciscoes in Lake Superior.
- Competition (for food and habitat) and predation (on eggs and juveniles) from introduced exotic species such as alewife, smelt, and Pacific salmon are thought to be the greatest threat to this species.

Priority Conservation Actions

- A management plan for this species is needed to increase populations, as the species is thought to currently be declining in Lake Superior.
- Prevention of the introduction of new exotic species and control of existing exotic species populations (e.g., sea lamprey, alewife, rainbow smelt) is needed for conservation of this species.
- Sustainable fishery regulations are needed to insure that the shortjaw cisco population in Lake Superior is not negatively impacted by commercial fisheries targeted at other species.

- Measures should be taken to continue the reduction of contaminants released into the Great Lakes and other inhabited lakes.
- More information on taxonomy (hard to identify) and population trends of shortjaw cisco in Lake Superior is needed to inform management for this species, along with information about contaminant loads, locations and characteristics of spawning sites, minimum viable population sizes and the degree of hybridization which may have affected the species.